

Girl, 7, Slain And Buried in Negro's Cellar

Nude Body, With Throat
Cut and Skull Crushed
and Showing Attack, Is
Found by Jersey Police

Parents Ignored Screams

Accused Man Escapes After
Returning With His Wife
to the Scene of the Crime

MOORESTOWN, N. J., June 11.—Seven-year-old Matilda Russo, who has been missing since last Saturday, was attacked and murdered, it was learned last night, when her unclad body was dug from a shallow grave in the cellar of Louis Lively, a negro, whose house is within fifty feet of that of the child's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Russo.

Announcement of the discovery of Matilda's body was made to-day after the police became convinced that Lively had fled. His wife is being detained in the hope that information leading to Lively's arrest may be obtained from her. A reward of \$500 has been offered for the negro and detectives are searching for him for 150 miles around. When policemen hunting for the lost child unearthed the body last night in the negro's home they found that the skull had been crushed and the throat cut.

Gave Child Presents
Lively lived with his wife and five-year-old boy. His wife and son went away for a visit a week ago. For some time, according to Russo, the negro had been making presents of candy and small toys to Matilda, and coaxing her to come and play often with his boy.

After dinner last Saturday night Matilda was not to be found. It was about 7:30 that her mother first missed her. She and her husband hunted until dark and made inquiries of their neighbors, but did not seek the child at the negro's home. About 8 o'clock, Mrs. Russo told the police yesterday,

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she heard a child screaming as if beside itself with fear.

She spoke to her husband about it, saying that perhaps the negro was beating his boy. Her husband, however, thought that the cries came from a greater distance than Lively's home and the accident was driven from their minds by their own anxiety. It was not until yesterday that Mrs. Russo mentioned it to the police.

Negro Acted Suspiciously

The police had been suspicious of Lively in connection with the girl's disappearance. His demeanor had been most furtive and evasive when any of the searchers sought to question him about the child. As soon as Mrs. Russo spoke of hearing screams the night Matilda vanished, it was decided that Lively's house must be searched. It was easy enough to do it without the negro's knowledge, for he worked as a street cleaner in Philadelphia and, since his wife had been away, seldom got home until late at night. Chief of Police John Bradshaw entered the house with Patrolman Jacobs and began the search.

They found nothing to arouse their suspicions until they reached the cellar. It was apparent that digging had been done recently in the dirt floor. Chief Bradshaw used a crowbar that leaned against the wall and drove it into the disturbed earth for a distance of nearly three feet.

Such an extensive excavation was worth investigating, the policemen decided, and set to work with shovels. A few minutes' work sufficed to uncover the body of the child, which lay at full length in the trench, hands folded across the breast.

Bradshaw put a police lock on the door and went back to headquarters with Jacobs. Before they reached there Mrs. Lively called the police on the telephone. She had just got home with

her husband, she said, and there was a padlock on the door. She wanted to know what it meant.

"Come down here and you'll find out," said the policeman on duty, and Mrs. Lively ended the conversation.

W. H. Coleman, whose home on East Second Street is within a few houses of that of the Livelys, was sitting on his front porch and saw the couple return soon after the policeman had departed. Lively, he said, swore loudly on discovering that his door was locked against him. He and his wife walked away.

Negro Disappears

She went to headquarters alone, arriving there soon after Chief Bradshaw and Jacobs got back. Her husband had left her, she said, and had not said where he was going. Although confident that the negro woman knows nothing of the crime itself, Chief Bradshaw sent her to the county jail at Mount Holly for detention and examination as to the haunts of her husband.

All night the police searched the town for Lively, finding many persons who had seen him, but not catching a glimpse of the negro himself. This morning they were convinced that he had given them the slip and spread the alarm broadcast.

He is a coffee-colored negro, about five years old, five feet four inches in height and weighs about 150 pounds. He wore a brown suit and a straw hat last night.

Plea Made for Hattie Dixon

Governor Asked to Save the
Woman From Electric Chair

From a Staff Correspondent

ALBANY, June 11.—Arguments in behalf of Hattie Dixon, New York City negroes condemned to die in the electric chair next week for the murder of Mary Morton, her ward, were made before Governor Miller to-day by lawyers interested in her case. Mrs. Dixon, according to the records of the case, induced her son to kill the girl in order that she might collect a \$500 insurance policy taken out in her name.

It was claimed at the hearing to-day that no sufficient evidence was produced at the trial to show she actually plotted to kill the girl. The Governor was asked to commute her sentence to life imprisonment. No objections were made to this plea by representatives of the Bronx District Attorney's office. Governor Miller will render a decision next week. If Mrs. Dixon is electrocuted she will be the first woman in twenty years to be put to death by the state.

Venire Called To Try 2 for Kaber Murder

Authorities Worried Over
Persistent Refusal of the
Widow to Take Food;
4 Suspects Questioned

Alleged Accomplice Held

Mother and Daughter Offer
Not Guilty Pleas When
Arraigned in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, June 11.—A venire of sixty names to form a jury to try Mrs. Eva Catherine Kaber and her daughter, Marian McArdle, for the murder of Mrs. Kaber's husband two years ago, was issued late to-night.

Mrs. Kaber persists in her refusal to eat and the authorities are worried over her health.

In addition to the questioning of several persons by the police, a new arrest was made to-day. A man said to have introduced Mrs. Kaber to the midwife, arrested in Sandusky, Ohio, several days ago, and who is alleged to have furnished poison said to have been given Kaber in his food, was arrested in his home here.

Police to-day are looking for the two men believed actually to have committed the murder. They said they had undoubted evidence against the two men being sought. The chase may lead out of Cleveland.

Four persons questioned this afternoon were a woman believed to have introduced Mrs. Kaber to the woman said to have obtained the assassins; a woman whom Mrs. Kaber consulted in planning the employment of the men "to beat up Dan Kaber"; a man under suspicion of having acted as the "go-between" in planning the stabbing; and a man arrested several days ago, who is believed to have been directly implicated in the murder. Chief Smith said he would keep this man and the other in custody for further questioning.

Mrs. Kaber and her daughter, Miss McArdle, were taken to-day from the women's ward of the county jail to the Court of Common Pleas, before Judge Maurice Bernon. There they pleaded not guilty. Judge Bernon set the hearing of Mrs. Kaber for June 28, the earliest date possible.

When the woman returned from the court room to the jail Francis W. Paulson, who will represent Mrs. Kaber and Miss McArdle and possibly other defendants, saw his clients for the first time. Following the interview he said Mrs. Kaber did not object to the early date set, wishing to get the trial over as soon as possible. For that reason he will not ask for delay, he added. Bail will not be asked for Miss McArdle, he declared.

"Miss McArdle says that her mother is ill and that she wishes to remain with her," he said. Mr. Paulson asserted it was too early to say what line the defense of Mrs. Kaber would take. It was probable, he indicated, that the defense would be that the hired assassins who stabbed Kaber to death in his bed were not employed to kill him, but merely to "beat him up" and teach him a lesson.

Mrs. Kaber and Miss McArdle were held in the jail for an hour after their return from the courtroom and then taken to the central station, where Bertillon measurements, begun last night, were completed.

They were accompanied by the jail matron, who had been instructed to keep them under constant surveillance to prevent Mrs. Kaber from carrying out her threats of suicide.

Find Varotta Boy's Body in Hudson River

(Continued from page one)

ished. Appel tapped him on the shoulder and motioned to the door to indicate that the car which had brought them was waiting.

Varotta rose mechanically and then turned to others in the room, as though he felt that courtesy demanded some explanation from him.

"A man had asked \$5,000 or he would kill my boy," said he, speaking precise English in a halting monotone. "I could not raise the money and they killed him. That is all."

Warning by Black Hand

He bowed slightly and followed Appel to the door, his head bent and his eyes on the floor, as if he sought to avoid the mental vision of the woman who knelt before the candles on East Thirteenth Street. His thoughts may also have turned to a letter he received last Monday, the day he testified before the grand jury against the five men arrested for trying to extort the ransom from him, which ran something like this:

"If you appear before the grand jury the body of your boy will be floating

in the river and we will get that Mike Fiaschetti (head of the Italian squad) with a .38 caliber revolver.

It was about 11 o'clock yesterday morning that the body, which may have been in the water not more than a week despite assertions by those who saw it that it had been submerged a much longer time, caught the eye of a chance pedestrian.

Soon after Giuseppe vanished his father, Salvatore, received a Black Hand letter demanding a ransom of \$2,500. In this letter and in a later one the threat was made that, unless the money was paid and the secret kept from the police, Salvatore's next information concerning his boy would be as to the day and hour that he was killed and his body thrown into the river.

Trap Laid for Kidnapers

Notwithstanding this threat Varotta went to the police and a trap was laid in his house which resulted, on June 2, in the arrest of five men, all of whom have been indicted as implicated in the attempt to extort money from Varotta. A sixth arrest was made a few days ago when a youth who had been loitering for days in front of the Varotta home was found to possess a revolver.

Although the Italian squad was confident after the arrest of the quintet accused in connection with the letters that the boy would be found abandoned on the street within a few days, no clew to his whereabouts has been discovered from that day to this. His father and his mother, whose condition is delicate, are at their wits' end in the search.

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A week after Giuseppe disappeared the body of a boy, whose description resembled his, was found in the Hudson River off West New York. It proved upon examination, however, to be that of a child living in Harlem who had been drowned off 115th Street.

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